

### DIRECTIONS

From the intersection of Route 275 and Route 195, go south on Route 195 for 2.9 miles. Turn left at blinker onto Chaffeeville Road. Go 2.0 miles; parking is on right and left, just past the junction with Mulberry Road.

### Suggested Park Activities



Hiking



Picnicking

### Prohibited Park Activities

Unleashed Dogs  
Mountain / Motor Biking  
Camping / Camp Fires  
Horseback Riding



**Mansfield  
Parks &  
Recreation**

10 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield CT 06268  
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[www.mansfieldct.org/parksandpreserves/](http://www.mansfieldct.org/parksandpreserves/)  
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Made possible through a grant from the  
National Recreational Trails Program,  
the Federal Highway Administration,  
and the Connecticut Department  
of Environmental Protection



US Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Highway  
Administration**

*For up-to-date trail information or to download maps  
click on [www.mansfieldct.org/trailguides/](http://www.mansfieldct.org/trailguides/)*

# Coney Rock Preserve

Mansfield, CT

Coney Rock Preserve is a 220-acre wooded tract of land owned partly by the Town and partly by Joshua's Trust. For almost three centuries this location has retained the name of Coney Rock, but the reference to Coney remains a mystery.



# trail guide

There are a total of 5 miles of blazed hiking trails within the Joshua's Trust and Town boundaries. The Town trails (blazed in white) and Joshua's Trust trails (blazed in yellow) wind through the following points of interest:

1. **Coney Rock Preserve** - Coney Rock is a wooded ridge including a 1000-foot-long ledge that offers panoramic vistas extending across Mansfield Hollow and Lake Naubesatuck and west to Spring Hill. Note: All entrance trails are relatively steep. The most gradual access is located off Mulberry Road on the White Oak Trail (park at Chaffeeville entrance).

2. **Hemlock Grove** - Following the trail uphill, notice the evergreen hemlocks. While a native tree, a non-native insect, the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, is currently threatening the hemlock's survival.
3. **Spring** - Here a small pool was created to capture a small spring-fed stream as a water supply for the cows pastured on this hillside.
4. **Old Farm Road** - The broad trail and the stonewall along its edge are clues that this path is an old road, which cows and vehicles used to access pastures and timber on the ridge.

5. **Stone Ledge** - This access road winds around the stone ledges as it climbs up Coney Rock. These stony hillside areas were used for pasture, while the level area on top featured crops and an orchard long ago.
6. **Great White Oak** - Due to substantial logging that occurred throughout Connecticut in the past, this magnificent old tree is a rare find in the midst of any local forest. The timber harvests on Coney Rock have been managed to preserve a mix of mature and young trees for successful forest regeneration and beneficial wildlife habitat.
7. **Fern Passage** - The trail enters a grove of birches and ferns. The moisture in the soil here is greater than that under the hardwood forests on the ridge.
8. **Stone Walls** - While many of the old stonewalls on Coney Rock surround an old crop field or pasture, they were also utilized as property boundaries. Here the series of stonewalls that follow the park boundaries were probably the initial owner's boundaries.
9. **Understory Vegetation** - A healthy, native understory is important for forest regeneration. Here plentiful native species have thrived. Notice the smooth barked saplings that appear to have muscles or tendons just beneath the bark's surface. These hornbeam trees, also called "ironwoods" or "muscle-woods", are an example of a healthy native understory.
10. **Fire Damage** - In this section of woods, note the blackness of the larger tree bases and forest floor debris. This is the evidence of an accidental fire that occurred in 2000. While fire is initially destructive, burning the understory is a natural and rejuvenating process for the forest.
11. **Coney Rock Overlook** - Along this 1000-foot-long cliff, enjoy the dramatic views of the Fenton River and the Naubesatuck Lake in Mansfield Hollow State Park. In the distance are the ridges of Scotland.
12. **Logging Remains** - The owners of this property selectively logged these woods before gifting it to Joshua's Trust. Leaving the biomass, of fallen tree debris provides important food and shelter for wildlife in the forest.
13. **Glacial Boulders** - These rocks were likely deposited by the melting of the glaciers, which had carried them from northern regions.
14. **Proposal Rock** - This grouping of large boulders holds significant meaning to the previous owners of this property. The sellers' father proposed to their mother by this huge rock, and this area is Joshua's Trust's Proposal Rock Preserve. For more information about Joshua's Trust Properties click on [www.joshuaslandtrust.org](http://www.joshuaslandtrust.org).
15. **Wetland Vegetation** - When crossing the stream, take note of the variety of native water-tolerant vegetation in the wetland along its banks, such as skunk cabbage. Wetlands are valuable ecosystems that provide wildlife habitat, water cleansing and flood control functions.

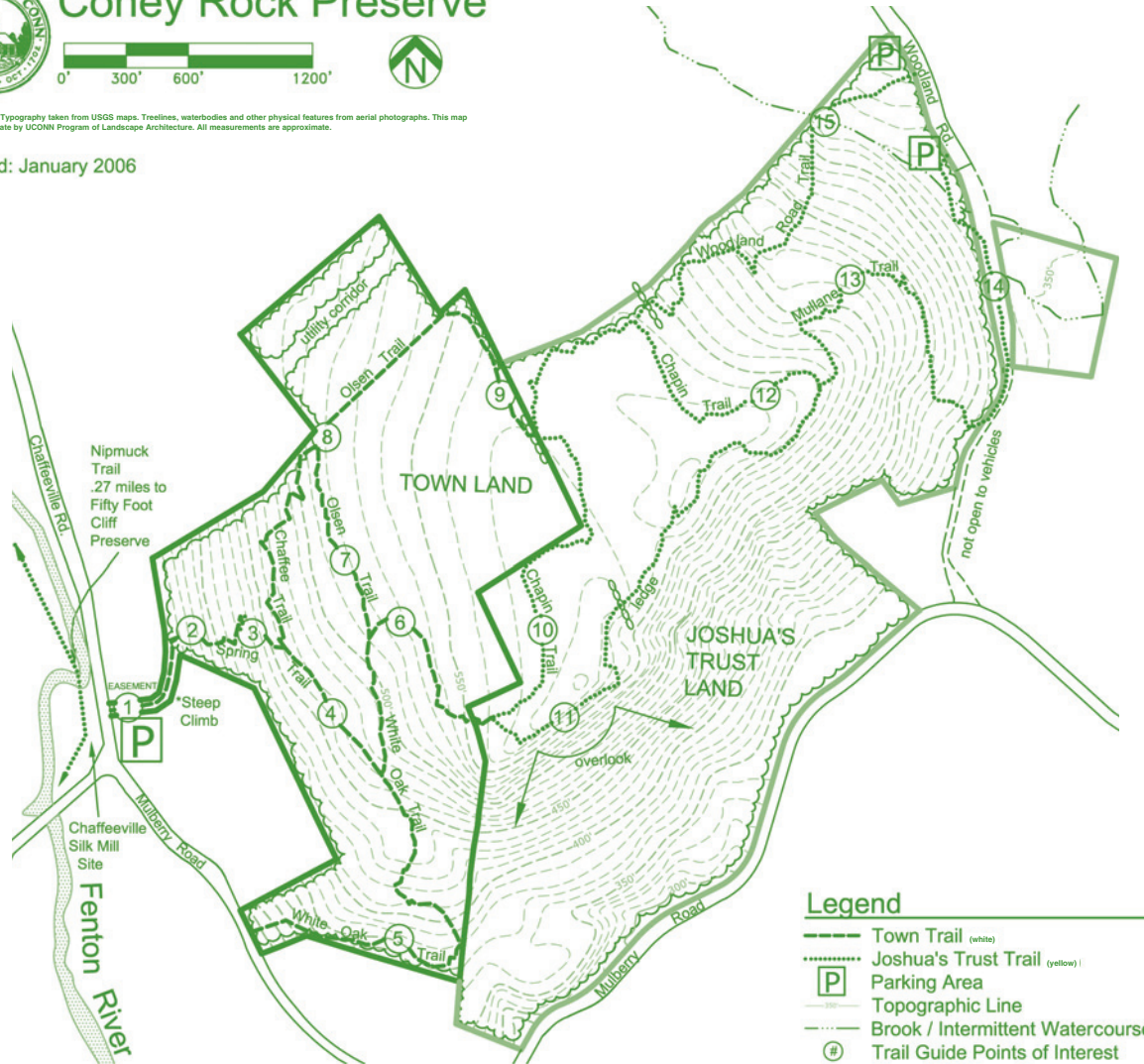


## Coney Rock Preserve



SOURCE INFO: Topography taken from USGS maps. Treelines, waterbodies and other physical features from aerial photographs. This map and GPS Trail data by UCONN Program of Landscape Architecture. All measurements are approximate.

Revised: January 2006



### Legend

- Town Trail (white)
- Joshua's Trust Trail (yellow)
- [P] Parking Area
- Topographic Line
- Brook / Intermittent Watercourse
- Ⓢ Trail Guide Points of Interest
- Stone Wall Crossing